

H London

To the Members of the London Foot-Association.

GENTLEMEN,

THE very extraordinary and unprecedented Resolutions of your Committee cannot fail to obtain the Attention of every Member of the Association, and must raise that Indignation that so flagrant an Attempt, to impose on the Public the Wishes of two or three Individuals as the Sense of the whole Society, deserves. On a future Day, I hope the particular Objects will meet your just Resentment, that Gentlemen may be taught, that the Authority, delegated to them for the Government of a military Society, is not to be perverted to the Purpose of supporting an Election.

I am aware that the Committee will plead, in Excuse, the Interference of the Light-Horse in Favour of Mr. Kirkman; but the Difference is extreme: The Resolution to support Mr. Kirkman was that of a General-Meeting, and not of a Committee appointed for another Purpose: And it is to be observed of Mr. Kirkman, at the Time he took the Command of the Light-Horse Volunteers, he was no Member of that Body; it was upon the Refusal of the Gentleman who used to command that Mr. Kirkman was applied to: He accepted it with Cheerfulness; behaved with Intrepidity; and, by the most vigilant and generous Attention every Night for six Weeks, obtained that just Applause and Countenance the Light-Horse Volunteers and the Livery of London are now pleased to shew him.

The Interference of any military Society in Elections can only tend to destroy the Cordiality which should ever subsist among the Members: And sorry I am that so good a Character as our worthy Commander could be persuaded to lend his Countenance to such Proceedings.

But, Gentlemen, lest any of you should be unacquainted with the Merits of Mr. Newnham, as an Associator, and want to know for which of his great Qualifications he meets with such extraordinary Support from your Committee, I beg Leave to request those Gentlemen to give me a plain Answer to the following Questions.

1. Was not Mr. Newnham, two Years ago, one of the first Associators? And did he not expect that very great Numbers of the Citizens would have belonged to such an Institution?

2. Did he not, at the first Meeting, holden at the Globe Tavern, Fleet-Street, for the Purpose of forming Regulations for the Society, inform the Gentlemen, he proposed to stand for Representative for the City of London, and requested their Vote and Support?

3. Did not Mr. Newnham, (thinking the Society on the Decline,) in the ensuing Summer, withdraw himself from the Society, without assigning any Reason but Want of Time for Attendance?

4. Did Mr. Newnham ever attend your Exercise in the Artillery-Ground, or elsewhere, six Times, from the Institution to his withdrawing himself?

5. Did he not withdraw his Name to make his Peace with the Artillery-Company, in which are many Liverymen, whom he had offended, in the same Manner as Messrs. Bull, Sawbridge, Hayley, and other Aldermen, had done, by supporting the Association, in Respect to the Use of the Artillery-Ground?

6. Did Mr. Newnham attend you during the Time of the Riots? And was he not locked up in the back Parlour of the Bank, with Mr. Alderman Clark and the Directors, guarded by 500 Soldiers, while the Members of the Association were using their utmost Endeavours to defend the Property of their Fellow-Citizens, in all Parts of the Town?

7. Did he apply for Re-admission till all idea of Danger from rioting was subsided? And was he not then admitted at a private Committee? And were you not apprised that Objections would be made to him, had he been admitted publicly?

8. Was not his last Admission at the Persuasion of his Friends, (a great Number of new Members having been admitted into the Association) in Order to serve his Interest as a Candidate for the Membership? And does it not appear, from his Solicitation at the first Meeting, that his Intention was only to make the Association subservient to his electioneering Views?

When the Committee has answered these Questions, I will only ask the Gentlemen of the Association and the Citizens in general, whether a Man, who becomes a Member of a military Association in Order to prostitute its Credit for his private Advantage, is not (instead of deserving the Support of the Association and his Fellow-Citizens) deserving of their Contempt and Detestation.

ONE OF YOURSELVES.